GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:182
ANSWERED ON:18.11.2002
BAN ON RECYCLING OF PLASTIC BAGS
PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have advised State Governments to ban recycling of Plastic bags;

(b) if so, the States that have enacted laws or issued orders to this effect; and

(c) the details of other steps taken, if any, to check pollution due to indiscriminate use of polythene for packaging etc.?

Answer

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU)

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Ministry of Environment and Forests has issued `Recycled Plastics Manufacture and Usage Rules 1999`, under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. These rules prohibit the use of recycled plastic bags for storing, carrying, dispensing, or packaging of foodstuffs. The rules also specify that the minimum thickness of carry bags made of virgin plastics or recycled plastics shall not be less than 20 microns.